

for their basic rights. He has changed presidential term limits, dismantled democratic institutions, and committed electoral fraud.

Madam Speaker, this is a country that has endured two dictatorships and a civil war. We must demonstrate our solidarity with the people of Nicaragua. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass my NICA Act to cut funding to Ortega, and I urge the administration to sanction more Ortega officials who are committing human rights abuses. We must not allow Ortega's actions to go unpunished.

A BETTER DEAL

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, it is wrong that Republicans continue to pursue policies that clearly benefit only the wealthiest Americans and large corporations, in particular, leaving middle class Americans behind. They have undermined our healthcare system, raising premiums on Americans and increasing the cost of prescription drugs. That is the impact of what this Republican majority has done.

At a time when we see more Americans concerned about rising healthcare costs, we really ought to be figuring out ways to work together. I know Democrats and Republicans can do that. But instead, the Republican majority is focused on tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans and the biggest corporations, essentially passing huge benefits—\$250 billion—to CEOs and wealthy shareholders, mostly through stock buybacks, which is money that does not go to America's workers.

Now, Republicans are using their deficit-exploding tax plan to justify huge cuts that could impact Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. That is a raw deal.

Democrats are offering a better deal. We want to grow our economy and create high-wage jobs that support a family, not just so they can just get by, but so they can actually succeed. We have a plan for opportunities.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA) at 3 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

JUSTICE FOR UNCOMPENSATED SURVIVORS TODAY (JUST) ACT OF 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 447) to require reporting on acts of certain foreign countries on Holocaust era assets and related issues.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 447

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today (JUST) Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON HOLOCAUST ERA ASSETS AND RELATED ISSUES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED COUNTRIES.—The term "covered countries" means participants in the 2009 Holocaust Era Assets Conference that are determined by the Secretary of State, or the Secretary's designee, in consultation with expert nongovernmental organizations, to be countries of particular concern relative to the issues listed in subsection (b).

(3) WRONGFULLY SEIZED OR TRANSFERRED.—The term "wrongfully seized or transferred" includes confiscations, expropriations, nationalizations, forced sales or transfers, and sales or transfers under duress during the Holocaust era or the period of Communist rule of a covered country.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that assesses and describes the nature and extent of national laws and enforceable policies of covered countries regarding the identification and the return of or restitution for wrongfully seized or transferred Holocaust era assets consistent with, and evaluated with respect to, the goals and objectives of the 2009 Holocaust Era Assets Conference, including—

(1) the return to the rightful owner of any property, including religious or communal property, that was wrongfully seized or transferred;

(2) if return of any property described in paragraph (1) is no longer possible, the provision of comparable substitute property or the payment of equitable compensation to the rightful owner in accordance with principles of justice and through an expeditious

claims-driven administrative process that is just, transparent, and fair;

(3) in the case of heirless property, the provision of property or compensation to assist needy Holocaust survivors, to support Holocaust education, and for other purposes;

(4) the extent to which such laws and policies are implemented and enforced in practice, including through any applicable administrative or judicial processes; and

(5) to the extent practicable, the mechanism for and an overview of progress toward the resolution of claims for United States citizen Holocaust survivors and United States citizen family members of Holocaust victims.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that after the submission of the report described in subsection (b), the Secretary of State should continue to report to Congress on Holocaust era assets and related issues in a manner that is consistent with the manner in which the Department of State reported on such matters before the date of the enactment of the Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from New York favor the motion?

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I do.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that basis, pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) will control the 20 minutes in opposition.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), and I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the Nazis ravaged Europe, confiscation of property was just one of the many injustices Holocaust victims endured.

In the almost 75 years since World War II ended, helping to repair the wrongs inflicted by the Nazis by restoring the property of millions of people who had their lives torn apart has proven a difficult and challenging problem.

The 2009 Holocaust Era Assets Conference addressed the ongoing injustices created by the Holocaust, including guidance related to restitution of